

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 177487  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:VSGRAY  
APPROVED BY EUR:JEGOODBY  
EUR/CE:WMWOESSNER  
S/S:FWISNER

-----007305 140014Z/14

O P 132217Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 177487

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: ADDITIONAL Q AND A FOR BERLIN  
TOWN MEETING

REF: (A) BERLIN 4352 NOTAL (B) BERLIN 4557 NOTAL

IN VIEW OF NATURE OF PRIMARY CHARGE AGAINST NICO HUEBNER  
(DRAFT EVASION), POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THE PRESIDENT MIGHT  
RECEIVE A FOLLOW-UP QUESTION ON THE RECENT GDR DECISION TO  
INTRODUCE PRE-MILITARY TRAINING INTO NINTH AND TENTH GRADE  
CLASSES (REF A). EMBASSY BERLIN HAS SUGGESTED (REF B)  
FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY Q AND A ON SUBJECT:

BEGIN TEXT

Q: DO YOU AGREE WITH EAST GERMAN CHURCH LEADERS WHO HAVE  
CONDEMNED THE RECENT GDR DECISION TO INTRODUCE PRE-MILITARY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 177487

TRAINING INTO NINTH AND TENTH GRADE CLASSES THIS FALL?

A: I AM AWARE OF PRESS REPORTS THAT THE GDR INTENDS TO  
INTRODUCE SUCH OBLIGATORY TRAINING AND I AM ALSO AWARE THAT  
CHURCH LEADERS IN THE GDR HAVE EXPRESSED THEMSELVES ABOUT  
THIS MATTER. I BELIEVE SUCH TRAINING IS NOT CONDUCIVE TO  
IMPROVEMENT OF THE ATMOSPHERE IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND IS IN-

CONSISTENT WITH THE PEACEFUL SPIRIT OF HELSINKI.

FYI: PRE-MILITARY TRAINING WAS FORMERLY CONDUCTED ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS THROUGH YOUTH AND SPORTS GROUPS. THE NEW DECISION WILL FORCE FAMILIES OPPOSED TO SUCH TRAINING TO DECLARE THEMSELVES, THUS EFFECTIVELY BARRING THE YOUNGSTERS INVOLVED FROM HIGHER EDUCATION. IN A PRIVATE MEETING JUNE 20 LUTHERAN BISHOP SCHOENHERR ATTEMPTED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO GET PREMIER STOPH TO RECONSIDER THE POLICY. THIS WAS FOLLOWED JUNE 25 BY A PASTORAL LETTER LABELING THE POLICY A "DEMONSTRATIVE ACT THAT WILL UNDERCUT THE CREDIBILITY OF THE PEACE POLICY OF THE GDR" AND PROMISING CHURCH SUPPORT TO THOSE WHO, FOLLOWING THEIR CONSCIENCE, REFUSE SUCH TRAINING. THE REGIME, WHICH HAS BEEN ACTIVELY WOOING THE CHURCH IN RECENT MONTHS, HAS NOT YET REACTED TO THE LETTER. AT STAKE IS THE FRAGILE CHURCH-STATE ACCOMMODATION THAT HAS BEEN GROWING SINCE THE MARCH 3 MEETING BETWEEN THE GDR'S PROTESTANT LEADERSHIP AND PARTY BOSS HONECKER. (CONFIDENTIAL)

2. DEPARTMENT CONCURS. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 jul 1978  
**Decapton Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decapton Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE177487  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** VSGRAY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780288-0212  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780762/aaaacaky.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 043ada75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 BERLIN 4352, 78 BERLIN 4557  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2015430  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: ADDITIONAL Q AND A FOR BERLIN TOWN MEETING  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (CARTER, JIMMY)  
**To:** BONN FRANKFURT MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/043ada75-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014